

Welcome to the Fort Columbia Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) web site we have established to keep you informed about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers efforts to conduct the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) Site Investigation (SI).

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is evaluating FUDS that had historically been used for military activities and training. One of these sites, the former Fort Columbia, is located in Pacific county, near Chinook, WA.

Fort Columbia, consisting of 770 acres, was purchased by the War Department in 1864 for costal fortification as part of the Harbor Defenses of the Columbia River. After purchase the land was left undisturbed until 1898 when construction began on the first of three artillery batteries and support buildings. All three batteries were completed in 1903. Between 1903 and 1947 Fort Columbia, in conjunction with Fort Stevens and Fort Canby, was a U.S. Army costal defense artillery installation protecting the Columbia River through the end on World War II.

In late 1947 the War Department declared Fort Columbia surplus. In 1950 the State of Washington acquired the property and dedication of Fort Columbia Historic State Park was on June 17, 1951.

The Corps will do the evaluation by conducting a MMRP SI. The SI will be conducted by a Corps contractor, Shaw Environmental. The work to be performed will include access to and a visual inspection of property that was part of the former Fort Columbia. The inspection may also include soil and/or water sampling.

The SI will be used to determine what future work the Corps may do to clean-up possible munitions related components and chemical constituents used during training. The Corps of Engineers inspects and evaluates sites contaminated with hazardous waste, radioactive waste, and/or munitions according to federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.

In order to begin the SI the Corps will be contacting the property owner of the former Fort Columbia site requesting the owner to provide a signed Department of the Army Right of Entry (ROE) for Investigation and Sampling.

If you have ideas that would make this web site more useful to you, please let us know.

You're invited to E-mail your comments or questions to the Seattle District, Fort Columbia Project Manager: michael.d.nelson@usace.army.mil.